Antec
Believe it.

DF-10
DARK FLEET

THE ADVANCED GAMING FORCE
USER MANUAL

DF-10 USER'S MANUAL

Congratulations on your purchase of the Antec Dark Fleet DF-10.

Meet the DF-10, the Dark Fleet enclosure rocking elite style at an attractive price. Our industry-acclaimed 0.6 mm SECC internals are cooled by TwoCool™ fans pulling air through a blacked-out interior featuring a transparent side window and front washable fan filter. And building with the DF-10 is a snap, thanks to a CPU cutout and cable routing compartment. With a bevy of in-demand features and a rugged exterior, all at a supremely attractive price, the Dark Fleet DF-10 is more than just a low price - it's the value case that gives you more for your money.

The DF-10 comes without a power supply. Make sure you choose a power supply that is compatible with your computer components and has a long enough power harness to reach your motherboard and peripheral devices. We recommend our High Current, Signature Series, TruePower Quattro or TruePower New power supplies for the latest ATX specification compliance, broad compatibility, and power savings capability.

At Antec, we continually refine and improve our products to ensure the highest quality. As such, your new case may differ slightly from the description in this manual. This isn't a problem; it's simply an improvement. As of the date of publication, all features, descriptions, and illustrations in this manual are correct.

Disclaimer

This manual is intended only as a guide for Antec's computer enclosures. For more comprehensive instructions on installing the motherboard and peripherals, please refer to the user's manuals that come with those components.

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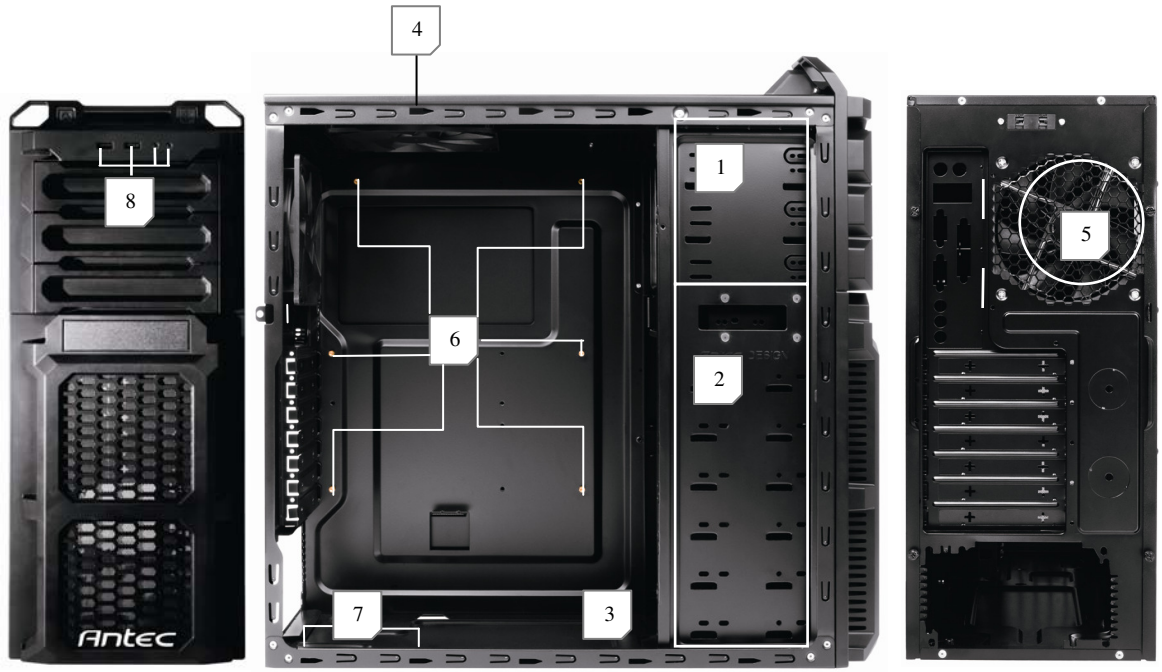
SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CASE



Drive Bays

1 5.25" drive bays
2 3.5" drive bays
3 2.5" internal SSD bay

Cooling

4 140 mm top TwoCool™ fan
5 120 mm rear TwoCool™ fan

Hardware Mounts

6 Motherboard standoffs (pre-installed)
7 Power supply mounts
8 Front I/O ports

1.2 CASE SPECIFICATIONS

CASE TYPE	Mid-tower
COLOR	Matte black
DIMENSIONS	19.2" (H) x 7.8" (W) x 19.6" (D) 488 mm (H) x 198 mm (W) x 497 mm (D)
WEIGHT	15.1 lbs / 6.9 kg
COOLING	1 x top 140 mm TwoCool™ fan 1 x rear 120 mm TwoCool™ black-bladed fans with blue LED 2 x front 120 mm fans (optional) 1 x side 120 mm fan for graphics cards (optional)
DRIVE BAYS	6 x internal 3.5" 3 x external 5.25" 1 x external 3.5" 1 x internal bottom-mounted 2.5" SSD bay
EXPANSION SLOTS	8
MOTHERBOARD SIZE	Mini-ITX, microATX, Standard ATX
FRONT I/O PANEL	2 x USB 2.0 AC'97 / HD Audio In and Out

1.3 Before You Begin

In order to ensure that your building experience with the Dark Fleet DF-10 will be a positive one, please take note of the following:

While working inside your Dark Fleet DF-10, keep your case on a flat, stable surface. Make sure your build area is clean, well-lit, and free of dust.

Antec cases feature rounded edges that minimize the occurrence of hand injuries. Nonetheless, exercise caution and control when handling case interiors. We strongly recommend taking the appropriate time and care when working inside the case. Avoid hurried or careless motions. Please use reasonable precaution.

Handle components and cards with care. Do not touch the components or contacts on a card. Hold a card by its edges. Hold a component such as a processor by its edges, never by its pins.

To avoid electrostatic discharge, ground yourself periodically by touching an unpainted metal surface (such as a connector or screw on the back of this computer) or by using a wrist grounding strap.

Before you connect a cable, ensure that both connectors are correctly aligned and oriented. Bent pins can be difficult to fix and may require replacement of the entire connector.

This manual is not designed to cover CPU, RAM, or expansion card installation. Please consult your motherboard manual for specific mounting instructions and troubleshooting. Before proceeding, check the manual for your CPU cooler to find out if there are steps you must take before installing the motherboard.

Do not sit on your case. Although it is constructed of heavy-duty steel and internally reinforced, it is not designed to support the weight of an adult, and may buckle.

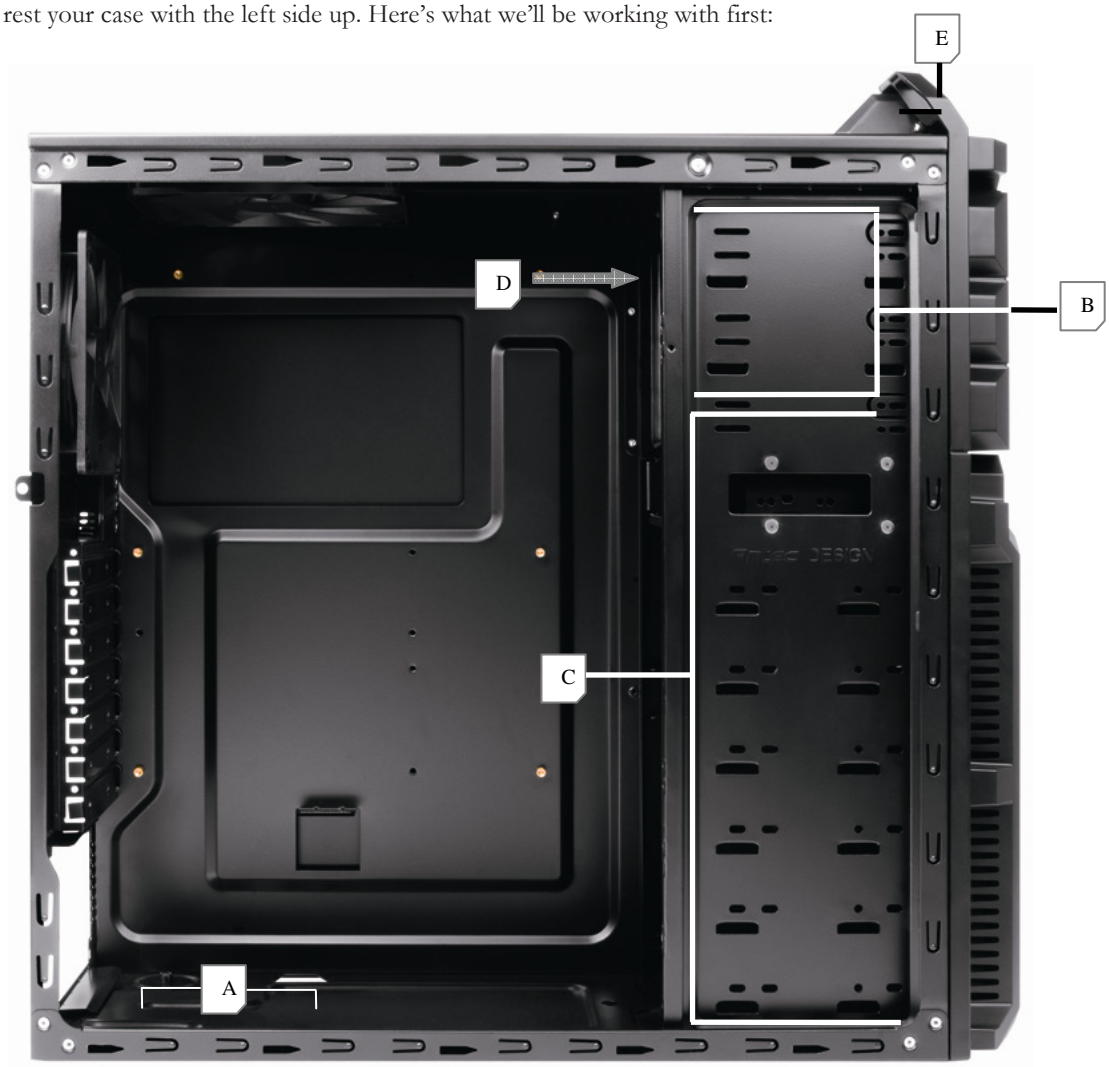
Remember to use the right tools for each task. Do not use improvised screwdrivers like coins, nails or knife blades as they may result in damage to screw threads or even injury. Do not use your fingernails to separate edges or lift the sides of the case, as paint chipping or injury may occur.

SECTION 2 HARDWARE INSTALLATION

2.1 Setting Up

Put the case upright on a flat, stable surface so that the rear panel (power supply and expansion slots) is facing you. To remove the left and right side panels, remove these thumbscrews:

Now rest your case with the left side up. Here's what we'll be working with first:



A – Power supply mounts
B – 5.25" drive bay area
C – 3.5" drive bay area
D – Front panel wiring
E – I/O panel

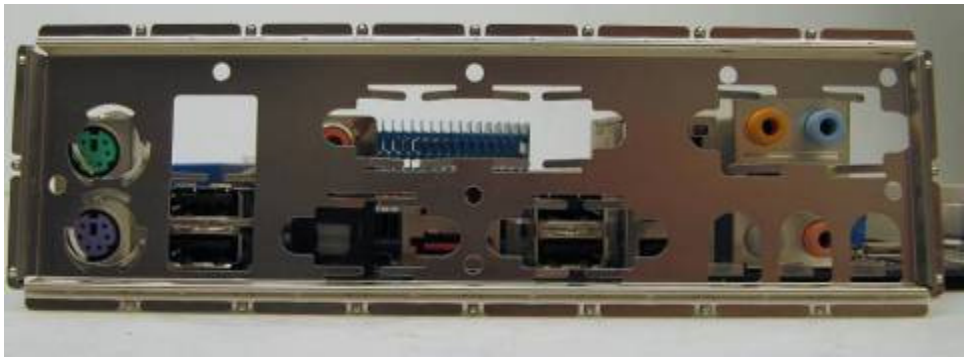
Note:	Do not use your fingernails to pry or lift the panels. Damage to the panels or injury to your fingernails may result.

Note:	This manual is not designed to cover CPU, RAM, or expansion card installation. Please consult your motherboard manual for specific mounting instructions and troubleshooting.

2.2 MOTHERBOARD INSTALLATION

Before proceeding:

- Check the manual for your CPU cooler to find out if there are steps you must do before installing the motherboard
- Make sure you have the correct I/O panel for your motherboard. If the panel provided with the case isn't suitable, please contact your motherboard manufacturer for the correct I/O panel.



Make sure you have the correct I/O panel. This mismatched I/O panel can cause difficulties down the road.

1. Lay the case down, with the open side facing up. The drive cages should be visible on the right side of the case, with the power supply in the upper left.
2. Now insert your motherboard, aligning your motherboard with the standoff holes and remember which holes are lined up.

Installing the motherboard, step 2. Note that not all motherboards will match with all the provided holes; this is normal and won't affect functionality.

3. Now remove your motherboard by lifting it up.

Lift your motherboard out to install the standoffs.

4. Install standoffs as needed and put the motherboard back in.
5. Screw in your motherboard to the standoffs with the provided Phillips-head screws.

Caution: Make sure to remove any unused motherboard standoffs. They may come into contact with the back of the motherboard and may electrify your case exterior if left connected.

Step 5: Screwing in the motherboard after standoffs are installed

Note: The DF-10 comes with a CPU cutout on the motherboard tray, which will allow you to change your CPU heatsink without removing the motherboard.

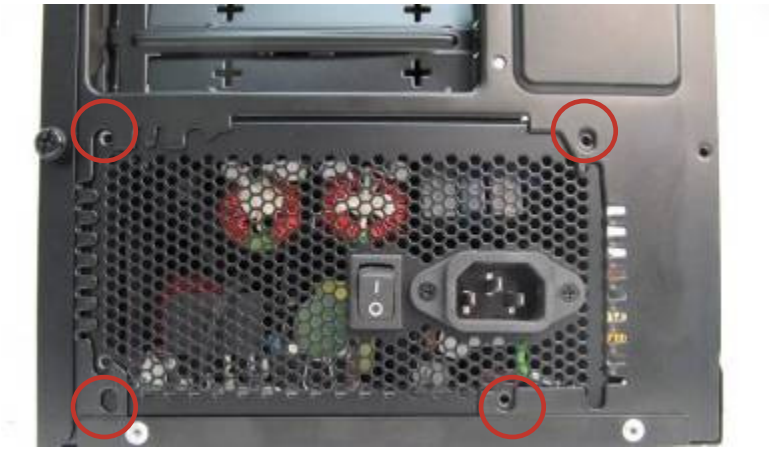
2.3 Standard ATX Power Supply Installation

The DF-10 can accommodate a standard-size ATX power supply.

1. With the case upright, place the power supply on the bottom of the case.

PSU resting on the standard PSU mount.

2. Push the power supply to the back of the case and align the mounting holes.
3. Attach the power supply to the case with the screws provided.



Use these screws to secure your power supply to the case.

Note:	Power supplies with fans on the bottom of the power supply will need to be mounted so that the fan is facing the top of the case. The DF-10 provides mounting holes for power supplies with standard mounting layouts to be installed right side up or upside down.

2.4 Cable Management

There is a cable management compartment behind the 3.5" drive cage. You can tuck or route excess cables in this compartment.

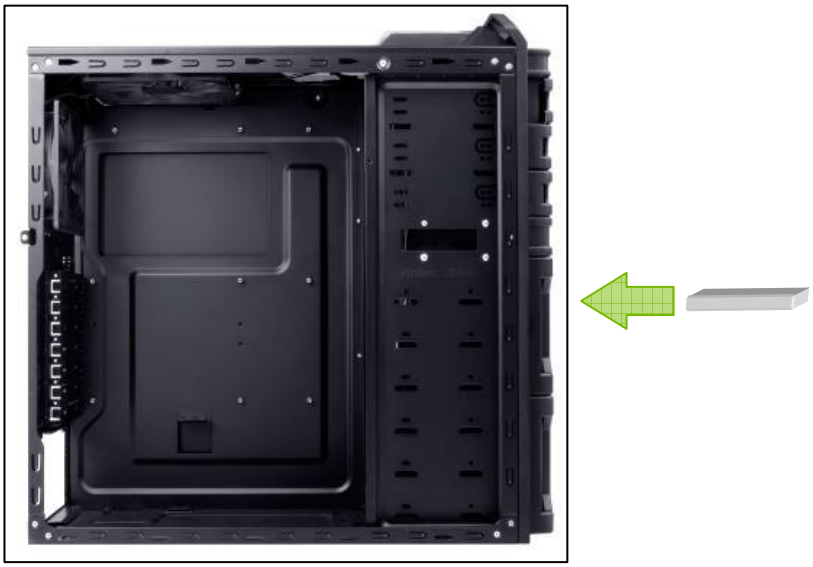
1. Locate the cable management compartment with cable ties located behind the walls of the 3.5" drive cage.
2. Tuck or route your excess cables to the compartment. This will keep the cables from interfering with airflow in your case and help with cooling.
3. Use the cable ties provided to hold them in place.

2.5 INTERNAL 3.5" DEVICE INSTALLATION

The portion of the bezel covering the internal 3.5" drive bays can be removed.

1. With the left side of the case facing you, push on the tabs near the front behind the bezel away from you to release the bezel (see picture). The left side of the bezel will swing open, allowing you to remove the bezel.
2. Insert your 3.5" device into the 3.5" drive cage from the front of the case. Push gently until the drive's mounting holes align with the screw holes in the cage.

Bezel-release tabs



Installing a 3.5" internal device

3. Fasten the device in place with the provided screws on **both** sides of the drive cage.
4. Mount any other 3.5" HDD devices accordingly.
5. Connect the appropriate power and data cables to the device(s), using cable routing as desired.
6. Replace the bezel by inserting the right side first, and swinging it shut like a door.

2.6 External 3.5” Device Installation

There is one external 3.5” drive bay under the 5.25” drive bays.

Remove this drive bay cover.

1. Carefully remove the 3.5” drive bay cover from the bezel. Load the drives from the front, lining them up to the front of the drive cage.
2. With one hand supporting the drive, fasten the drive with the screws provided.
3. Connect the appropriate power and data cables to the device(s), using cable routing as desired.

2.8 External 5.25” Device Installation

There are three externally accessible 5.25” drive bays. Before you begin, remove both side panels.

1. First, remove the drive bay faceplate and metal cover plate as shown below.

The plastic drive bay faceplate should pop free.
A screwdriver may be needed to remove the metal cover plate.

2. Slide your 5.25” device into the bay from the front of the case.

5.25” device installation

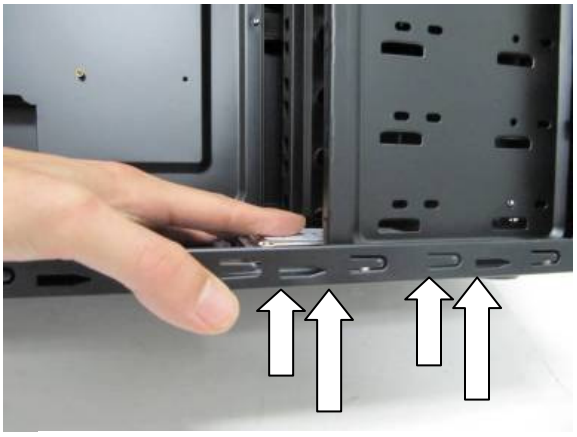
3. Secure the drive into position in the drive bay using the provided screws on each side of the drive.
4. Mount any other 5.25” devices accordingly.
5. Connect the appropriate power and data cables to your device(s).
6. Replace both side panels.

2.9 Internal 2. 5” Device Installation

There is a 2.5” device mounting location located at the bottom of the case. To use this mounting location:

1. Locate the bay at the bottom of the case.
2. Using the screws provided, secure your 2.5” device.

The 2.5” mounting location

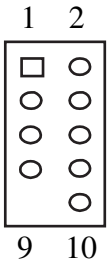


Secure your 2.5” device from the bottom.

SECTION 3 FRONT I/O PORTS

3.1 USB 2.0

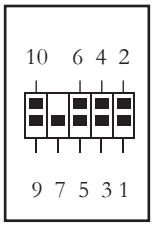
Connect the front I/O panel USB cable to the USB header pin on your motherboard. Check your motherboard user's manual to ensure that it matches the table below:



Pin	Signal Names	Pin	Signal Names
1	USB Power 1	2	USB Power 2
3	Negative Signal 1	4	Negative Signal 2
5	Positive Signal 1	6	Positive Signal 2
7	Ground 1	8	Ground 2
9	Key (No	10	Empty Pin

3.2 AC'97 / HD Audio Ports

There is an Intel® standard 10-pin AC'97 connector and an Intel® 10-pin HDA (High Definition Audio) connector linked to the front panel of the case.



Pin	Signal Names (HDA)	Pin	Signal Names (AC'97)
1	MIC2 L	1	MIC In
2	AGND	2	GND
3	MIC2 R	3	MIC Power
4	AVCC	4	NC
5	FRO-R	5	Line Out (R)
6	MIC2_JD	6	Line Out (R)
7	F_IO_SEN	7	NC
8	Key (no pin)	8	Key (no pin)
9	FRO-L	9	Line Out (L)
10	LINE2_JD	10	Line Out (L)

You can connect either the AC'97 or the HDA connector, depending on your motherboard. Locate the internal audio connectors from your motherboard or sound card and connect the corresponding audio cable. Consult your motherboard or sound card manual for the pin-out positions. Even if your system supports both standards, only use one connector.

3.3 Power Switch / Reset Switch / Hard Disk Drive LED Connectors

Connected to your front panel are LED and switch leads for power, reset, and HDD LED activity. Attach these to the corresponding connectors on your motherboard. Consult your motherboard manual for specific pin header locations. For LEDs, colored wires are positive (+). White or black wires are negative (–). If the LED does not light up when the system is powered on, try reversing the connection. For more information on connecting LEDs to your motherboard, see your motherboard user's manual.

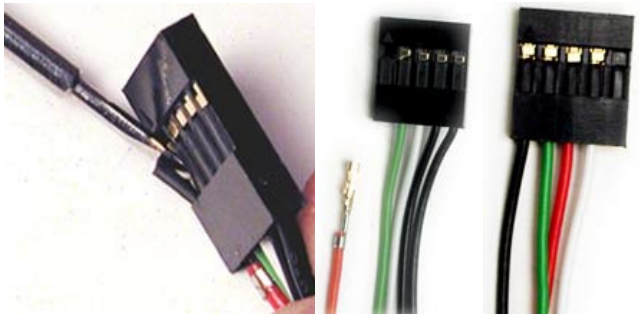
Front Panel switch leads

Note: Polarity (positive and negative) does not matter for switches.

3.4 Rewiring Motherboard Header Connections

There may come a time when you need to reconfigure the pin-out of a motherboard header connector. Examples could be for your USB header, audio input header, or some other front panel connector such as the Power Button connector.

Before performing any work, please refer to your motherboard user's manual or your motherboard manufacturer's website to confirm the pin-out needed for your connector. We strongly recommend making a notated drawing before beginning work so that you can recover if your work gets disturbed.

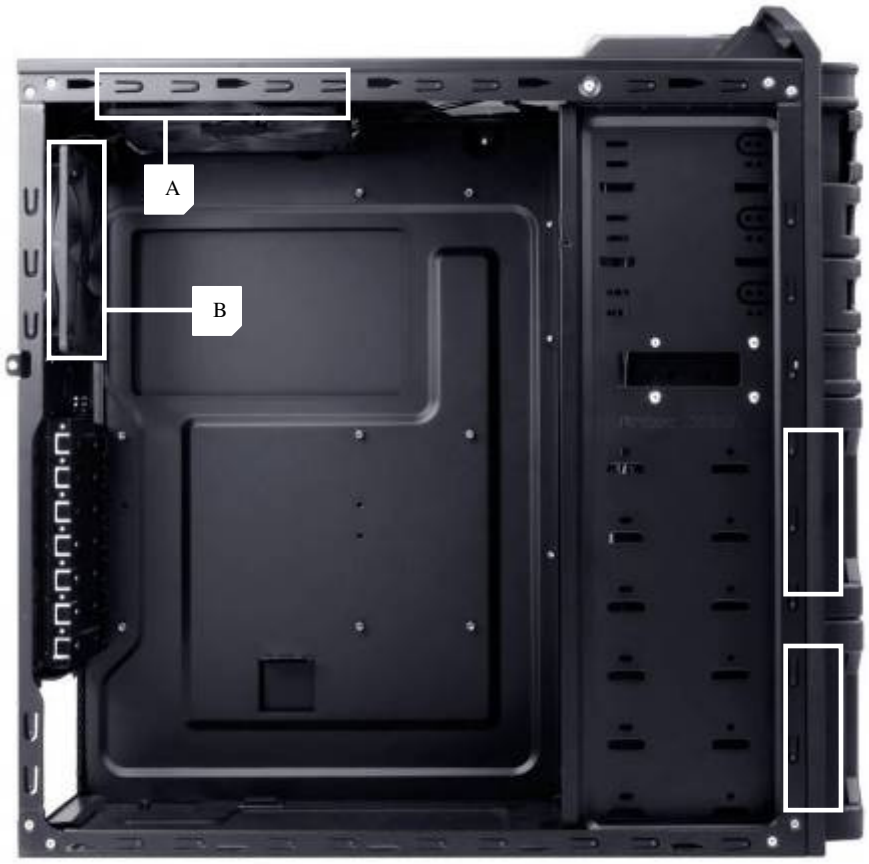


Front panel headers

1. Determine which wires you need to remove in order to rewire your plug to match the USB pin-outs on your motherboard (refer to your motherboard user's manual). Working on one connector at a time, use a very small flathead screwdriver or similar tool to lift up on the black tab located beside the gold posts (squares). This will allow you to easily slide out the pins from the USB plug.
2. Working carefully so as not to damage the wires, connectors, or pins, slowly remove the pin from the connector. Repeat these steps for each wire you need to change.
3. Working carefully so as not to damage the wires, connectors or pins, slowly reinsert the pin into the correct slot of the connector then snap closed the black tab that was lifted in step 1. Repeat these steps for each wire you need to change.

SECTION 4 COOLING SYSTEM

4.1 INCLUDED FANS



Standard fans on the DF-10:
***A** – 1 x 120 mm rear TwoCool™ blue LED fan*
***B** – 1 x 140 mm top TwoCool™ fan*

Rear fan control panel

4.2 TOP 140 MM TWOCOOL™ FAN

The DF-10 comes with one 140mm TwoCool™ fan. This fan has a two-speed switch that lets you choose the speed best suited to your need. This switch is located at the rear of the case. The default fan speed setting is Low.

140 MM FAN SPECIFICATIONS:

Size: 140 x 25 mm two-speed fan
Rated Voltage: 12V DC
Operating Voltage: 10.8V ~ 13.2 V

Speed	Input Current	Air Flow	Static Pressure	Noise	Input Power
High 1200RPM	0.3A	1.7m³ / min (58.9 CFM)	0.8 mm-H_2O (0.03inch-H_2O)	26 dBA	3.6 W
Low 800RPM	0.2A	0.95m³ / min (33.6 CFM)	0.28 mm-H_2O (0.01inch-H_2O)	21.8 dBA	2.4 W

4.3 REAR EXHAUST 120 MM TWOCOOL ™ BLUE LED FAN

There is one 120 x 25 mm TwoCool™ blue LED fan preinstalled at the rear of the case. This fan is designed to pull hot air out of the case. This fan comes with two-speed switch that lets you choose the speed best suited to your need. This switch is located at the rear of the case. The default fan speed setting is Low.

120 MM BLUE LED FAN SPECIFICATIONS:

Size: 120 x 25 mm speed control fan
Rated Voltage: 12V DC
Operating Voltage: 10.8V ~ 13.2 V

Speed	Input Current	Air Flow	Static Pressure	Noise	Input Power
High 1500RPM	0.30A (max.)	1.43 m³ / min (51.2 CFM)	1.21 mm-H_2O (0.05inch-H_2O)	27.9 dBA	3.6 W
Low 900RPM	0.18A	0.84 m³ / min (30.1 CFM)	0.49 mm-H_2O (0.02inch-H_2O)	16.9 dBA	2.2 W

Note: TwoCool™ fans have a two-speed switch that lets you choose between quiet or maximum cooling.

Note: The minimum voltage to start a typical TwoCool™ fan is 5V. We recommend that you set the fan speed to High if you choose to connect the fan(s) to a fan control device or to the Fan-Only connector found on some Antec power supplies. A fan control device regulates the fan speed by varying the voltage, which may start as low as 4.5V to 5V. Connecting a TwoCool™ fan set on Low to a fan-control device may result in the fan not being able to start because the already lowered voltage from the fan control device will be further reduced by the TwoCool™ circuitry below 5V.

4.4 Optional Fans

There is one optional 120 mm fan mount on the left side panel. A fan can be placed here to enhance graphics card cooling. There is also space to mount two fans in the bezel in front of the 3.5" internal drive bays for hard drive cooling. We recommend using Antec 120 mm TriCool™ fans and setting the speed to Low. These fans brings cool air into the case.

4.5 Washable Air Filters

There is a washable air filter in the bezel in front of the 3.5" internal drive bays. From time to time it will be necessary to wash the installed air filter. Not washing the air filter will result in higher system temperatures and possible stability problems. We recommend checking the air filter at least once a month initially. The frequency will change depending on system usage (users whose systems run 24/7 will likely have to check/wash more often than those who don't use their systems every day) and on environmental conditions.

Bezel-release tabs

Fan-bracket screws in the bezel

To clean the filter:

1. With the left side of the case facing you, push on the tabs near the front behind the bezel away from you to release the bezel (see picture). The left side of the bezel will swing open, allowing you to remove the bezel.
2. Remove the six screws holding the fan mounting bracket in place
3. Remove the fan mounting bracket and any optional installed fans to access the filter.

Note: The air filter itself is not designed to be removed from the bezel.

Antec, Inc.
47900 Fremont Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94538
tel: 510-770-1200
fax: 510-770-1288

Antec Europe B.V.
Stuttgartstraat 12
3047 AS Rotterdam
The Netherlands
tel: +31 (0) 10 462-2060
fax: +31 (0) 10 437-1752

Technical Support:
US & Canada
1-800-22ANTEC
customersupport@antec.com

Europe
+31 (0) 10 462-2060
europe.techsupport@antec.com

www.antec.com

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